



**CITY OF SANTA BARBARA
CREEKS RESTORATION/WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENT
CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES**

REGULAR MEETING

April 11, 2007

DAVID GEBHARD PUBLIC MEETING ROOM, 630 GARDEN STREET

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Jordan called the meeting to order at 5:32pm.

ROLL CALL

Committee members present: Chair Jordan, Daniel Hochman, Bruce Klobucher, Lee Moldaver, Jeff Phillips, George Weber, Daniel Wilson

Committee members absent: None

Liaison members present: County Project Clean Water Liaison Rob Almy,
Councilmember Iya Falcone

Liaison members absent: Park and Recreation Commissioner Beebe Longstreet,
Planning Commissioner John Jostes

Staff present: Assistant Parks and Recreation Director Jill E. Zachary, Creeks Water Resources Specialist Autumn Malanca, Acting Creeks Supervisor George Johnson

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion:

Committee members Moldaver/Hochman to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of March 14, 2007.

Vote:

Voice vote 6/0; Moldaver abstained.

AGENDA ADJUSTMENTS

None.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No one wished to speak.

COMMITTEE MEMBER AND STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Moldaver provided a handout from Bren School Graduate Presentations regarding storm water reduction.

Chair Jordan announced that there will be a Planning Commission meeting regarding the Upper State Street Study Report on Thursday, April 12 at 3pm; and, the next IRWMP meetings will take place April 23, 2007 (South County) and April 24, 2007 (North County), more information is available from the Creeks Division or on the City's website at www.SantaBarbaraCA.gov.

Ms. Zachary provided copies of a letter received from Lanny Ebenstein regarding the purchase of land adjacent to creeks.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. Hochman reported on the Strategic Planning Subcommittee meeting of March 27, 2007. Subcommittee members Mr. Klobucher, Mr. Phillips and Mr. Hochman attended, as well as Chair Jordan. The meeting was noticed to the public.

The Subcommittee focused on how the Creeks Advisory Committee can increase its presence with other boards and commissions and came up with the following strategies:

1. When asked to provide comments on an issue, clearly consolidate thoughts and formulate a way to seamlessly transfer the information to the Planning Commission, Parks and Recreation Commission, City Council, etc.
2. Suggest staff take extra care in whether they list agenda items as "Discussion Items" versus "Action Items". If listed as Discussion Items, the Committee cannot take action.
3. Look to Committee members to represent the Committee to other boards and commissions, and to make sure relevant items and information from other meetings are presented to the Committee under Committee Member & Staff Communications Agenda Item.
4. Specify how to present Creek guidelines to other boards and commissions; Committee members can present the Watershed Guide publication, which includes goals, objectives and BMPs for Creeks.
5. When the Committee goes to other boards and commissions, it is represented by the Chair, then Vice Chair, or other representatives selected by the Committee. It is important for Subcommittees to remember that the Subcommittee must represent views of the entire Committee. Following discussion at meetings, compose list of bullet points of discussion, representing views Committee discussed; this list can then be used by any Committee member to represent the Committee's view on the item.

Mr. Wilson arrived at 5:42pm

Mr. Moldaver requested that the Strategic Planning comments presented by Mr. Hochman be committed in writing and distributed to the Committee to adopt for future action.

Councilmember Falcone arrived at 5:45pm

Manager's Update:

Ms. Zachary reviewed the Manager's Program Update.

BUSINESS ITEMS

9. a Subject: Storm Water Management Program (SWMP) Implementation Status Report

Recommendation:

That the Committee receive a status report on the City's Storm Water Management Program (SWMP).

Documents:

Staff Report – April 2007

Speakers:

Autumn Malanca, Water Resources Specialist

Committee Questions/Discussion:

The Committee asked questions regarding the State Water Resources Control Board reports; whether there is an upcoming report to City Council; how often Clean Water Businesses are recertified and whether there are annual follow-ups and inspections; whether the upcoming Technical Guidance Manual includes enforceable standards or recommendations; and, whether the Creeks Division has considered providing Clean Water Business training through programs such as Adult Education.

Ms. Malanca reported that the comments from the Regional Board were somewhat predictable, and that there is a growing focus on wash water runoff; upon inspection, businesses that are meeting Clean Water goals are certified and advertised by the Creeks Division; if not certified, the Creeks Division works with them to meet goals; SWMP requires the City to consider a Storm Water Ordinance; and, Clean Water Business Adult Education courses are an option the Creeks Division could consider.

Mr. Moldaver left at 6:18pm

The Committee asked questions regarding how to track effects that SWMP goals have on water quality; whether the City has a vehicle to contain wash water runoff; how internal problems are resolved; how many fines have been issued; what SWMP items the Creeks Division was already working on versus new projects; if the Technical Guidance Manual is primarily focused on construction or a broader scope of best management practices; anticipated effect of SWMP on business owners; and, expressed concern regarding Measure B funds being locked into a five year commitment should Measure B or grant funds decline.

Ms. Malanca reported that internal enforcement has already begun, and the Creeks Division has approached operational divisions with training efforts to ensure management practices are being implemented within City departments; the enforcement procedure consists of a Notice of Violation with abatement date and a follow-up check, and levels of fines with each citation; there have been 10-15 fines issued this year; and, the Creeks Division will focus on mobile washers to ensure wash water is contained and discharged to a sewer connection.

Ms. Zachary reported that the containment vehicle is anticipated to cost \$25,000 and will be paid for by the General Fund; the budget numbers were estimates developed when the Creeks Division went to City Council to send the SWMP to the Regional Board; some budget costs are included in what the Creeks Division is already doing, and some are costs are for items the Creeks Division already wanted to pursue.

Ms. Malanca reported that the SWMP is available on the City's website **www.SantaBarbaraCA.gov**, as well as the Creeks Division's website at **www.SBCreeks.org**; and, that the Water Quality Enforcement phone number is **(805) 897-2688**.

Break at 6:45pm

Back to order at 6:53pm

Mr. Klobucher and Councilmember Falcone were absent when the Committee returned from break.

9. b Subject: Mission Creek Fish Passage Projects

Recommendation:

That the Committee receive a presentation on the proposed fish passage projects on Mission Creek.

Documents:

Staff Report – April 2007

Power Point Presentations (2) – April 2007

Speakers:

George Johnson, Acting Creeks Supervisor

Sid Temple, Civil Engineer, Questa Engineering

Committee Questions/Discussion

The Committee asked questions related to whether the Army Corps will be involved in the Caltrans Channel project; whether the constructed riffle technique is working in Alaska and British Columbia, and if the fish species are different than in Santa Barbara; how staging the project will take place at the Hwy 192 site with the lack of parking; how funding of projects will be structured; how the Caltrans Channel project will affect Hwy 192 and Tallant Road projects; when construction would take place; how water will be diverted; and, how construction and equipment in the creeks will impact water quality and pollution will be prevented.

Mr. Johnson reported that the Penfield & Smith study with the Army Corps is not a part of this project; if the Caltrans Channel project doesn't happen, Hwy 192 and Tallant Road projects will not proceed; and, that construction would take place during the late summer or fall.

Mr. Temple reported that the constructed riffles are effective in Alaska and British Columbia, but that rain and heavy sediment laden flows are unique to Santa Barbara and Southern California; exploring staging options at Hwy 192 such as closing a lane of traffic; projects must begin after April 15 and be completed by October 15; a temporary dam will be constructed to bypass flow around construction area, then water will be restored once construction is done; and, construction will follow strict pollution and water quality guidelines.

Ms. Zachary reported that the projects could be funded through grants, although most agencies are not interested in funding permitting and planning; and, that Fish and Game has awarded a grant, and EDC has been successful in seeking private foundation support to partner on the project.

Mr. Wilson left at 7:23pm

The Committee asked questions regarding the advantages or disadvantages in maintaining separation of groundwater and the Caltrans Channel; how far the steelhead will travel up the creek; and, whether carving out and building pools helps with water temperature and shade to create a positive habitat.

Mr. Johnson reported that allowing water to infiltrate the ground could be a positive thing, but the primary goal of the Caltrans Channel is flood control; the Caltrans area should provide resting areas and eddies, but the steelhead are not intended to stay and spawn there; and, should the Caltrans Channel project not work out, the Tallant Road and Hwy 192 sites will not be pursued.

Mr. Temple reported that steelhead will go further up in the watershed to find suitable habitat, and the Tallant Road and lower channel are more intended for transportation than spawning habitat.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion:

Committee Members Hochman/Weber to adjourn.

Chair Jordan adjourned the meeting at 8:10p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jill E. Zachary
Assistant Parks and Recreation Director